

Sleeping Disney: Exposing the Dark Side of Corporations

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Most of us are familiar with the children's story "Sleeping Beauty". In sum, a princess has been given many gifts (beauty, grace, intelligence) and a curse (being destined to prick her finger causing a long period of sleep) by her "fairy godmothers" at Christening. And the curse can be reversed only in a century by a kiss from a prince who must first find her hidden away—slumbering in the forest.

Few of us, however, are aware of the millennium old history for this tale which was first recorded in France five hundred years ago. Original versions of the story which were usually darker and more sexual—the awakening kiss often being replaced with a rape for example—have been gradually softened. And the "cleaner" variations were set to music by a series of Russian composers a hundred years ago.

Walt Disney drew on many of these academic predecessors when he began animating the tale fifty years ago. Yet, Walt failed to cite his sources, and such plagiarism is typical of all Disney productions which rely heavily on intellectual "rape". This billion-dollar company does not, however, limit itself to stealing only mental property. A close inspection of their labor practices reveals a similar pattern of physical abuse.

The dark traditions of Walt Disney which persist today are why we, The Frequency Mutineers, are calling for a boycott of the Disney Corporation tonight. Members of WBGU radio have on several occasions conducted intense protests of Disney during their annual recruiting visit to the BGSU campus. The FM will be continuing this tradition, and we are asking for the support of our listeners in the battle against this huge corporation.

Although there are few of us and our actions are small, we can—by uniting—make a difference. We will expose the dark side of these huge corporations, and (more importantly) choose not to buy their tainted products. And we will instead support our local business and nonprofit organizations.